

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-03 JUSE-00 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 NEA-10 IO-13 H-02 /052 W

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R 281551Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3349

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DEPT FOR EUR/CE, SCA , SCS, AND L FOR KERLEY.

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EFIN, CGEN, CPRS, GE, US

SUBJECT:CLAIMS AGAINST GDR: JEWISH MATERIAL CLAIMS.

REF: BERLIN 6272

1. ON SEPTEMBER 28, EMBOFF(WOLF) MET WALTER WEHLING, DEPUTY CHIEF, AMT FUER DEN RECHTSCHUTZ DES VERMOGENS (OFFICE FOR LEGAL PROTECTION OF PROPERTY) AT FINNISH EMBASSY RECEPTION. WEHLING REFERRED TO PENDING GDR CLAIMS LEGISLATION NOW BEFORE CONGRSS ANDSAID HE HAD HEARD THAT THER WERE " UNEXPECTED DELAYS" IN THE PASSAE OF THAT AMENDMENT TO THE BASIC FOREIGN CLAIMS LEGISLATION. EMBOFF ASKED IF THE IMMINENT ADJOURNMENT OF THE CONGRESS MIGHT BE WHAT HE WAS REFERRING TO.

2. WEHLING SAID THAT, ALTHOUGH HE KNOWS THAT CONGRESSIONAL ADJOURNMENT, PARTICULARLY IN AN ELECTIN YEAR, COULD AFFECT THE TIMING OF THE PASSAGE OF THE CLAIMS LEGISLATION, HE WAS RATHER REFERRING TO THE DESIRE OF THECONFERENCE ON JEWISH MATERIALS CLAIMS TO TIE THEIR PROGRAM TO THE MATTER OF GENERAL CLAIMS. DID THE USG REALLY BELIEVE IT HAD A LEGAL RESPONSIBLITY TO SETTLE THAT MATTER TOO? EMBOFF RESPONDED BY SAYING THE JEWISH CLAIMS ISSUE CONTINUED TO ATTRACT POLITICAL ATTENTION IN THE US AND

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THEN ASKED IF HE WAS REALLY SURPRISED AT CONGRESSIONAL

INTEREST IN THIS MATTER. EMBOFF WENT ON TO SAY THAT WHILE
HE WAS NOT AWARE OF THE PRECISE STATUS OF THE CONFER-
ENCE'S VIEWS ONWHAT IT SHOULD DO AT PRESENT, THE GDR
WOULDBE WELL ADVISED TORECOGNIZE THAT THE PROBLEM OF
JEWISH MATERIAL CLAIMS WOULD NOT " GO AWAY" BUT REMAIN OF
SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL INTERST IN THE US. WEHLING NODDED
HIS HEAD AND SAID HE KNEW THIS.
POLANSKY

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Message Attributes

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